

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of study, statements of the research problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the research and definition of the key term.

1. Background of the study

English is a Foreign Language that very important means in communication which is used by many countries in this world. The countries that use English as an official language are England, USA, Africa, Ireland, Papua New Guinea, etc. And the country that use English as a second language are Bangladesh, Brunei, Ethiopia, Israel, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, etc. So, it called as an important role as an international language and many people in this world from many countries that learn English and apply it in their speaking daily. This is why the Indonesian government chooses English as the first foreign language to be taught in schools. English was introduced to us from the first grade of elementary school to the twelfth grade of Senior High School.

In English Language Teaching (ELT) or English Learning, there are 4 important skills that must be mastered: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. They are very important skills, but two of these 4 are required in communication and interaction to others, both formally and informally in Listening and Speaking. Listening and Speaking are person's ability to communicate and interact both formally in the official forum of an organization or

institution or in conversation or everyday conversation that use informal language. Writing skill used when the person gets information about what they listen and write in their note. And reading skill is a skill that used to get and understanding vocabularies. Usually, Listening, Speaking and Writing are called active communication. While Reading called passive communication.

Many students in this era still have difficulties in speaking in learning English. The most of them are reluctant and shy to speak English. This is due to several factors. For some of them, English is not their field of expertise, but they have studied English for less than 9 years. The second problem is there is still lack of vocabulary. In addition, many of them are afraid to make mistakes in speaking English, especially in the use of grammatical structure. So, in my opinion speaking is an important skill that we need to get information, communicate and get conversation to other people every day and every time, and if want to fluently in speaking we have to master the vocabularies.

Based on the research, the researcher found that students get bored if they have to speaking English in learning English at their class, it also did not make they understand what they say in the class better, but it will make them not interested to learning English. They would rather play than learning or mastery. As the teacher, making teacher's role is very important, because it will encourage them to study harder and better. The researcher also has to find new method or what a relevant method or the way to increase student's interest in learning English. Then, the students will interest to the teacher's method in learning English especially in speaking. They have to be taught step by step. The good media are needed to make the students interested to learning English well. The

teacher has to make or give a media for teaching. Media is a tool or the physical thing used by a teacher to facilitate the instruction (Brown, and Fred F: H 1977: 2-3). The teacher must consider the characteristics of the students, which directly related to the learning process such as verbal abilities, visual and audio perception skills. So, based on my opinion it means that media is very important needed by the teacher to teach their students in order to make the learning process more effective and the students can take the lessons well. In this millennial era or it can be called millennial generation, a lot of increasingly advanced technology from time to time, like gadget, television, computer, etc.

Everyone always has a cell phone, whether it's old or young, children or adults. They always bring their gadget or cell phone and connect to the internet, in the school, home, and everywhere. The students were found technology that provides to constant connection to friends and family. Cell phones, text, instant messaging blogs, social media network are common part of their everyday life in anytime. The teacher can use their cell phone or gadget as a media, in order to teach them well. From its thing, they can install the learning English application that is available on their Google play store application and useful to improve their English skill through speaking. But, teaching millennia's generation is more difficult than others, so the teacher must handle and make sure all learners get more practicing. It's caused why technology has become an important part in the field of education, especially in English Language Teaching. One of these technological media is the English-language news program from America that is Voice of America Learning English Education Report. This news program can be watched online via the internet using the You Tube app or offline after

downloading and saving through the play store app from the mobile phone. There are many various advantages gained from this new program in learning English. There are three reasons that VOA Learning English Education Report can improve English language skills especially in listening and speaking.

The first reason is in terms of Vocabulary. Because in this program, the news is delivered directly by native speakers can be downloaded from the internet to be watched over and over again. The second reason is in terms of intonation and pronunciation. Automatically, someone who often hears the pronunciation of words with good and correct intonation and articulation will affect the listening and speaking of a person. The third reason is in terms of grammatical structure. This program is delivered in a formal language in accordance with good and correct English grammar structure. This program is easier access on the internet, so it will make easier for students who are learning English.

Research that examined about vocabulary and about VOA Learning English Application has been done by previous researchers. From the research of Muzdalifah with entitled “VOA Special English: Increasing Student’s Speaking Skill at Faculty of Computer Science”, the results of her study indicates that speaking skill can be improved by using VOA Learning English. There is also research from Sulastri with entitled “The Effectiveness of Using VOA Learning English in Teaching Speaking (An Experimental Research at the Tenth Grade Students of SMK Batur Jaya 2 Ceper in the Academic Year 2017/2018)”, the results of her research show that the students who are taught by using VOA Learning English Application have better in speaking skill than those who are taught by using VOA Learning English Application.

VOA Learning English Application as a teaching media gives opportunities to get better in speaking. We can see that in teaching and learning process, we can find that the important thing is not only how much or how less teaching and learning are done in the classroom, but also how the students are active and interested in their learning process. Based on the explanation above, the writer interested to conducting a research with entitled **“The Use of Voice of America (VOA) Learning English Application to improve student’s speaking ability for the Eighth Graders of MTsN 2 Tulungagung.**

2. Statement of The Research Problem

Based on the background of the study, the problem can be formulated as following question. That is: “How can student’s speaking ability be improved by using VOA Learning English Application in Eighth Grade of MTsN 2 Tulungagung?”

3. Objectives of the Study

Based on the research problem, the objective of this study is: “To improve student’s speaking ability by using VOA Learning English Application and to know how VOA Learning English Application can improve student’s speaking ability in Eighth Grade of MTsN 2 Tulungagung.”

4. Significance of the Study

The researcher hopes that the result of the study will give contribution to:

a. The researcher

This study is important because it will give some knowledge to the researcher and to know the benefit of using VOA Learning English as media in teaching English through Speaking.

b. The students

The students more fun and enjoy the class and not feel bored. They get many information and distinct English in teaching and learning. They also can produce and improve English correctly by listen the audio and reading the transcript, then practicing the text by repeat carefully.

c. The teacher

The teacher can help students to improve their understanding about learning and focused on the used VOA Learning English as media for teaching through speaking.

5. Scope and Limitation of the Research

There are many activities which can be used to improving student's speaking ability and vocabulary using a learning media. The scope in this study is improving speaking ability using VOA Learning English as a media towards improvement of student's vocabulary in the eighth grades.

6. Definition of Key Term

There are some terms used in this research to clarify in order to avoid misunderstanding. One of them is VOA Learning English:

VOA is a program or one of instructional media or multimedia (audio visual) that can be seen and heard. It can help the students to hear natural language or real speech from native speaker in real life. The form of this program is an application, so everyone can download this program on play store application on their mobile phone. This program is very useful to improve student's speaking skill and listening skill, because the learners will be able to hear and see the scripts or texts on the phone's screen.